

## PROCEEDINGS OF THE NEW YORK ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

### MEETING OF OCTOBER 2, 1945

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held on October 2, 1945, at the American Museum of Natural History. President George G. Becker was in the chair. Seventeen members and twelve guests were present.

This meeting was devoted to the discussion of summer activities by members.

Mr. Comstock exhibited some butterflies from the southwest Pacific collected by soldiers stationed on these islands.

Mr. Pallister showed some insects both local and exotic recently acquired by the museum.

Dr. Becker spoke of the plant material, particularly orchids, passing through his station.

Dr. Bromley told of a number of serious outbreaks of insects during the year. That of the fall canker worm, which was as bad as in 1936, together with the scarcity of *Calosoma* beetles to feed upon the worms, was the worst of the outbreaks. The elm leaf beetle also was a serious pest during the year.

Mr. Schiff told of his summer work in mosquito control.

Dr. Schneirla reported the unusual activity of the red slave making ant and the great distances to which they travel, frequently 60 to 80 yards, but sometimes as much as 150 yards.

Dr. Swain told of his recent work in Florida, and called attention to the extensive fires which prevailed this year.

Mr. Laucks mentioned the mosquito sound records by Dr. Morton Kahn and the members thought they should try to get Dr. Kahn on the program for a future meeting. Mr. Huntington, who is well acquainted with Dr. Kahn, said he would try to get him.

Mr. Teale told of his observations on the movements of the dragon fly, *Anax junius*, and the monarch butterfly at Fire Island. He also reported on the activities of his colony of rat-tailed maggots.

Mr. Comstock spoke of the monarch butterfly found in the South Pacific Islands, and of the South American monarch reaching the southern part of the United States.

The rest of the meeting was devoted to a general discussion of insect flights.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

### MEETING OF OCTOBER 16, 1945

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held Tuesday evening, October 16, 1945, in the American Museum of Natural History. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President, Dr. S. W. Bromley, was in the chair. Fifteen members and 25 guests were present.

The secretary read a letter from Dr. M. D. Leonard asking the members of the Society to send in records of insects collected in New York State so as to

make the contemplated list as complete as possible. This request was commented upon by both Dr. Bromley and Mr. Comstock.

Mr. Comstock reported upon the program for the November and December meetings.

The talk of the evening, "A Naturalist Goes to Florida," illustrated with colored lantern slides, was given by Mr. John C. Pallister. He outlined the various regions of this unique state and described some of the plant and animal life to be found there.

Dr. Bromley, formerly a resident of Florida, spoke of some of the distinctive trees of that state.

Upon complaint of several members of the Society that they were not receiving their notices of meetings, the Secretary said he would take the matter up with the New York Academy of Sciences to correct this condition.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

#### MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 1945

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held Tuesday evening, November 20, 1945, in the American Museum of Natural History. President George G. Becker was in the chair. Twenty members and twenty-five visitors were present.

Mr. Teale proposed for membership, Mr. Roman Vishniac, 105 West 72nd Street, New York City, and because the proposal had been delayed, he made a motion that the by-laws be suspended and Mr. Vishniac be elected to membership at this meeting. The motion being carried, Mr. Vishniac was duly elected a member.

Mr. Comstock presented the following resolution:

Resolved that paragraph two of Article X of the by-laws of the New York Entomological Society be and hereby is suspended as effective only for the year 1946.

Be it resolved further that the Annual Meeting shall be held at the American Museum of Natural History on December 15, 1945, at 8:00 P.M.

Be it resolved further that, as provided by paragraph six of Article X of the by-laws, due notice of this meeting shall be given by publication in the Bulletin of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Mr. Edward Parr Wiltshire, Vice Consul with the British Consulate in New York City, presented the paper of the evening, "Insect Ecology in the Middle East," illustrated with lantern slides.

Mr. Wiltshire gave us many an interesting glimpse of plant and insect distribution throughout this varied region. The region covered extended from the coastal plains of the Mediterranean Sea, across the different mountain ranges, plateaus, and river valleys to the Caspian Sea.

Dr. King inquired as to the affinities of the fauna of the Middle East with the European fauna.

Dr. Forbes asked about the presence of the swallowtails, which do not seem to endure desert conditions; and called attention to the numbers of blues which inhabit this area.

Mr. Teale asked if the grasshoppers took up a position in relation to the direction of the sun.

Mr. Comstock inquired about the presence of parasites which seem to be quite prevalent.

The president appointed a nominating committee of Mr. Teale, chairman, Mr. Huntington and Mr. Weiss.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

MEETING OF DECEMBER 4, 1945

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held Tuesday evening, December 4, 1945, in the American Museum of Natural History. President George G. Becker was in the chair. Fifteen members and fifteen guests were present.

Dr. George W. Rawson, The Borden Co., 350 Madison Avenue, New York, was proposed for membership by the secretary. Mr. William T. M. Forbes of Cornell University requested by letter that Mr. R. H. Arnett, of the Department of Entomology, New York State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, New York, be proposed for membership.

The President requested the Secretary to reread a resolution presented by Mr. Comstock to change the date of the annual meeting. A motion was made and seconded to approve this resolution and it was so voted.

Dr. T. C. Schneirla presented the paper of the evening. It was "Studies of Mexican Army Ants in the Dry Season," illustrated with lantern slides.

Dr. Schneirla made his studies in five different areas of Mexico, from the lower wet coastal regions, to the higher and more arid places. In all the colonies observed there was a direct relation in the life cycle to the nomadic and statary periods. The activities of the colonies were largely governed by the seasonal weather conditions. The dry season is the greatest enemy of the army ant, much more so than the anteater, the so-called ant eating birds, and even parasites.

After considerable discussion the meeting adjourned.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 1945

The Annual Meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held on December 18, 1945, in the American Museum of Natural History. President Becker in the chair. Nineteen members and six guests were present.

In the absence of the Treasurer his report was read by the Secretary.

Mr. Teale reported the Nominating Committee's recommendations for elective officers for the year 1946 as follows:

- President—Stanley W. Bromley
- Vice-President—Harold R. Hagan
- Secretary—John C. Pallister
- Assistant Secretary—Lina Sordillo
- Treasurer—James C. King
- Assistant Treasurer—Leonard J. Sanford
- Editor—Harry B. Weiss

Trustees—Stanley W. Bromley, Chairman; George G. Becker, J. L. Horsfall, Harold R. Hagan, Herbert Ruckes.

Publication Committee—Harry B. Weiss, Chairman; John D. Sherman, Jr., T. C. Schneirla.

There being no further nominations from the floor a motion was made and approved that the Secretary cast one ballot and elect the above proposed officers of the Society for the year 1946.

Dr. Becker then turned the meeting over to Dr. Bromley, the new president.

Dr. L. G. Gemmell, American Cyanamid Co., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y., was proposed for membership.

Mr. Ross H. Arnett and Dr. George W. Rawson were elected members.

Mr. Comstock as delegate to the New York Academy of Science reported that nothing concerning the Society had come before the Academy.

Mr. Zerkowitz reported on collecting Lepidoptera in Portugal, while Mr. Wiltshire compared the collecting of similar Lepidoptera in Persia.

Dr. Bromley read a letter from Harry B. Weiss addressed to the Trustees in regard to publishing an index for the first fifty volumes of the Journal which Mr. Weiss had recently prepared. After much discussion, *pro* and *con*, a motion was made and approved for the Secretary to notify Mr. Weiss to solicit the subscription list for possible subscribers to the publications by means of a return postcard; this return postcard to be in the form of an order; the price of the publication not to exceed five dollars (\$5.00).

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

#### MEETING OF JANUARY 15, 1946

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held January 15, 1946, in the American Museum of Natural History. President Bromley was in the chair. Sixty-nine members and visitors were present.

The Secretary reported the deaths of two entomologists. Mr. Rumell, an ardent lepidopterist and collector, and Mr. F. M. Schott of Bergenfield, N. J., a member of long standing of the New York Entomological Society. It was thought advisable that Mr. Weiss write obituaries, for publication in the JOURNAL, about these two men.

Dr. L. G. Gemmell was elected to membership.

The President appointed a program committee of Mr. Wm. P. Comstock, chairman; Mr. E. I. Huntington and Dr. Mont Cazier, and a field committee of Miss Lucy Clausen, chairman; Mr. Chris Olsen, and Mr. Edwin Way Teale.

The paper of the evening, "Sounds Produced by Certain Disease-carrying Mosquitoes and Their Possible Significance in Control," was given by Dr. Morton C. Kahn, Cornell University Medical School, in association with Mr. Wm. Offenhauser and Mr. Wm. Celestin.

Dr. Kahn described recent experiments which he had been conducting at Cornell Medical School, on the sounds produced by various species of mosquitoes. These sounds are too low in volume to be heard by human ears. Therefore Dr. Kahn and his associates devised apparatus to amplify these sounds. Recordings of these amplifications showed marked differences in the sounds produced by different species as well as between males and females.

Following Dr. Kahn's talk, Mr. Offenhauser explained the apparatus and methods used, and played recordings of three species of mosquitoes, *Anopheles quadrimaculata*, *Aedes aegypti*, and *Aedes albopictus*.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

#### MEETING OF FEBRUARY 5, 1946

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held February 5, 1946, in the American Museum of Natural History. In the absence of President Bromley, the Vice-President, Dr. Hagan, was in the chair. Twenty-two members and visitors were present.

The Secretary reported the condition of President Bromley, who is in Doctors Hospital, as very favorable. A motion was made and approved that the Secretary send flowers from the Society to Dr. Bromley.

Mr. Teale reported that the programs for the meetings through May were all arranged.

Mr. Teale called attention to the next meeting of the Brooklyn Entomological Society to be held February 14 at the Brooklyn Museum at which Mr. Buckholtz was to describe and demonstrate some of his collecting apparatus.

Mr. Teale also reported that Dr. Clarence Goodnight, a member of the Society, and Mrs. Goodnight, who are well known for their work on the phalangids, were leaving for Lafayette, Indiana, where Dr. Goodnight will take over his duties as Assistant Professor at Purdue University.

The paper of the evening, "Interspecific Relationships within the *Guarani* Group of Neotropical *Drosophila*" was presented by Dr. James C. King.

Dr. King has been conducting extensive experiments in hybridization among six species of the *Guarani* group of *Drosophila* which occur in Mexico, Bolivia, and southeastern Brazil. Only among three species did he obtain any hybridization effective both ways. Dr. King showed bottles of living specimens of some of these species.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

#### MEETING OF FEBRUARY 19, 1946

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held February 19, 1946, in the American Museum of Natural History. In the absence of President Bromley, the Vice-President, Dr. Hagan, was in the chair. Forty-two members and visitors were present.

Mr. Walter R. Gusciora, 21 Fournier-Crescent Street, East Paterson, New Jersey, was proposed for membership.

Dr. Donohoe proposed for membership Mr. Edwin J. Sameth, Western Exterminating Co., Newark, New Jersey.

The Secretary read a short letter from President Bromley, thanking the Society for the flowers sent to him.

The paper of the evening "The White Fringed Beetle," illustrated by sound motion pictures, was presented by Dr. R. B. Swain of the U. S. Plant Quarantine Station, Hoboken, New Jersey.



Dr. Swain gave an interesting account of the appearance of these beetles in the southern states and their advance throughout six of the states bordering the Gulf of Mexico. They were probably introduced by means of ships stores arriving from Chile or Argentina.

Dr. Swain described the curious life history of the beetles of which no males have ever been found. The talk was followed by excellent motion pictures of the beetle and methods for its control.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*

#### MEETING OF MARCH 5, 1946

A regular meeting of the New York Entomological Society was held March 5, 1946, in the American Museum of Natural History. Vice-President Hagan was in the chair. Thirty-two members and visitors were present.

Mr. Walter R. Gusciora and Mr. Edwin J. Sameth were elected to membership.

At the request of Mr. George J. Rau, a motion was made and passed to accept his resignation from the Society.

The program of the evening, "Animals and Insects in the Rural Garden," illustrated by colored motion pictures provided an evening of entertainment. The pictures were of insects and other wild life to be seen in a rural garden which Mr. Comstock discussed very entertainingly.

Mr. Paul Richards, a member of the New York Entomological Society, took the kodachrome motion pictures about his home and garden. The camera he used was a cinekodak special. A number of the shots were quite unusual. The remarkable motion of the wings of a peacock fly were well shown, as was also the leg movement of several species of butterflies.

JOHN C. PALLISTER, *Secretary*